Security scheme for workers of Handloom and Powerloom sectors

†1176. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Textiles propose to implement some special security schemes for workers of handloom and powerloom sectors;

(b) if so, by when they will be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Prime Minister, in his Independence Day address to the Nation on the 15th August 2002, had announced a special contributory insurance shceme for one million weavers and artisans combining the Janshree Bima Yojana with Group Insurance Scheme. Accordingly, 'Bunkar Bima Yojana' which is a combination of Janshree Bima Yojana and Add-on Group Insurance Scheme has been included as a component under the comprehensive scheme called "Weavers Welfare Scheme" proposed to be implemented during the X Plan period.

The Government of India has approved a special 'Group Insurance Scheme' (*viz.* Prime Minister Bunkar Bima Yojana (PMBBY) in order to improve the sense of security among powerloom workers thus increase their productivity in the globalised integrated markets. This scheme is being implemented by the Office of the Textile Commissioner, Mumbai.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.